

09/819,654

B. The Rejection Based on Tognazzini and Microsoft

Microsoft is utilized in the rejection to show that a calendar can occupy all of the viewable surface of a graphic user interface. However, the invention does more than just expand the size of the calendar to cover the entire graphic user interface. To the contrary, the invention conceptually changes the way in which users access graphic user interface computer applications.

With the invention, instead of accessing graphic user interface computer applications through disk operating systems (DOS), Windows-based systems, icon-based systems, etc. the invention provides a schedule or calendar as the main graphic user interface from which all other graphic user interface computer applications are launched. Therefore, the invention is significantly different from the Microsoft reference because the invention does more than expand the size of the schedule to occupy the entire graphic user interface. Instead, the invention makes the schedule the launching point for all other graphic user interface computer applications.

For example, independent claim 1 defines, in addition to the "schedule occupying all of said viewable surface" the "schedule comprises the point from which all other graphic user interface computer applications operating on said computer are launched." Independent claims 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29 define the same feature using similar language. This feature is not disclosed by Microsoft or any of the remaining prior art of record. To the contrary, all prior art references of record describe calendaring programs that are launched by disk operating systems (DOS), Windows-based systems, icon-based systems, etc., and are designed to run in parallel with other graphic user interface computer applications that are similarly launched from the same disk operating systems (DOS), Windows-based systems, icon-based systems, etc. None of the prior art of record describes that a calendar or schedule should be the launching point for all other graphic user interface computer applications.

With the claimed invention, the calendar is the only item on the screen and no other icons are included on desktop and all files/programs are access from the calendar desktop. In other words, the calendar occupies the entire viewable surface of the graphic user interface and is the

09/819,654

point from which all other applications are launched. Icons are shown within the time slot of the schedule and are utilized to launch the various graphic user interface computer applications (see page 4, line 12-page 5, line 2 of the specification).

Thus, it is Applicants position that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a "schedule occupying all of said viewable surface" the "schedule comprises the point from which all other graphic user interface computer applications operating on said computer are launched" as defined by independent claim 1 and similarly defined by independent claims 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29 are patentable over the prior art of record. Further, dependent claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18-20, 23, 24, 26-28, and 31 are similarly patentable not only because they depend from a patentable independent claim, but also because of the additional features of the invention they define. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

C. The Rejection Based on Tognazzini and Microsoft in view of Barnett et al.

As shown above, Microsoft does not teach or suggest the invention defined by independent claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29. Barnett is referred to for disclosing a plurality of time slots and a plurality of links that appear on the schedule in the time slots. However, Barnett does not teach or suggest "schedule occupying all of said viewable surface" the "schedule comprises the point from which all other graphic user interface computer applications operating on said computer are launched" as defined by independent claim 1 and similarly defined by independent claims 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29, nor is Barnett referenced for teaching such features. Therefore, Applicants submit that the proposed combination of Microsoft and Barnett does not teach or suggest the invention defined by independent claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 25, and 29 and such claims are patentable. Further, dependent claims 2, 10, 18, and 26 are similarly patentable, that only by virtue of their dependency from a patentable independent claim, but also by virtue of the additional features of the invention they define. In view the foregoing, the Examiner is

09/819,654

respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

II. Formal Matters and Conclusion


In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-12, and 14-31, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0441.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1-5-05



Frederick W. Gibb, III
Reg. No. 37,629

McGinn & Gibb, P.L.L.C.
2568-A Riva Road
Suite 304
Annapolis, MD 21401
(301) 261-8071
Customer Number: 29154